5

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. An integrated unit, comprising:
- a laser beam source for emitting a laser beam;
- a detecting portion for detecting a reflected light;
- a diffraction element for diffracting the laser beam; and
- a casing accommodating said laser beam source and said detecting portion, wherein said integrated unit and a transparent optical compensation film are integrated in said integrated unit in which said diffraction element and said casing are integrated.
- 2. The integrated unit according to claim 1, wherein said optical compensation film is a high polymer film serving a function of changing polarization state of the laser beam.
- 3. The integrated unit according to claim 1, wherein said optical compensation film is attached onto said diffraction element.
- 4. The integrated unit according to claim 1, including said optical compensation film inside of said diffraction element.
- 5. The integrated unit according to claim 1, wherein said casing and said optical compensation film are integrated.
- 6. The integrated unit according to claim 1, including a cap member, provided to said casing, for closing an opening.
- 7. The integrated unit according to claim 6, wherein said cap member and an optical compensation film are integrated.
  - 8. The integrated unit according to claim 3, wherein said diffraction element has a diffraction pattern for diffracting a

5

10

laser beam, said diffraction pattern being formed on said optical compensation film.

- 9. The integrated unit according to claim 3, wherein said diffraction element has a diffraction pattern for diffracting a laser beam, said optical compensation film being formed on said diffraction pattern.
- 10. An optical pickup for reading information recorded on an optical disk by condensing a laser beam onto the optical disk, comprising:
  - a laser beam source for emitting a laser beam;
  - a detecting portion for detecting a reflected light;
  - a diffraction element for diffracting the laser beam;
- a casing accommodating said laser beam source and said detecting portion;

an integrated unit in which said diffraction element and said casing are integrated; and

an objective lens for condensing the laser beam onto the optical disk, wherein

said integrated unit and a transparent optical compensation film are integrated.

- 11. An optical pickup for reading information recorded on an optical disk by condensing a laser beam onto the optical disk, comprising:
  - a laser beam source for emitting a laser beam;
  - a detecting portion for detecting a reflected light;
  - a diffraction element for diffracting the laser beam;
- a casing accommodating said laser beam source and said detecting portion;

an integrated unit in which said diffraction element and said casing are integrated;

an objective lens for condensing the laser beam onto the optical disk; and

- 18 -

SPAIL

a reflection mirror for changing a direction of the laser beam, wherein

said reflection mirror and a transparent optical compensation film are integrated.

- 19 -